

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of Southern California Edison Company (E 3338-E) for Authority to Institute a Rate Stabilization Plan with a Rate Increase and End of Rate Freeze Tariffs.	Application 00-11-038 (Filed November 16, 2000)
Emergency Application of Pacific Gas and Electric Company to Adopt a Rate Stabilization Plan. (U 39 E)	Application 00-11-056 (Filed November 22, 2000)
Petition of THE UTILITY REFORM NETWORK for Modification of Resolution E-3527.	Application 00-10-028 (Filed October 17, 2000)

**ASSIGNED COMMISSIONER'S RULING ON PUBLIC
RELEASE OF INFORMATION SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO PUBLIC
UTILITIES CODE SECTION 583 AND GENERAL ORDER 66-C**

The schedule provides for the filing and service of independent audit reports on the financial condition of Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E) and Southern California Edison Company (Edison). Barrington-Wellesley Group, Inc. has conducted the independent audit of PG&E and prepared its report and KPMG LLP has conducted the independent audit of Edison and prepared its report. These reports may contain data or information submitted to the Commission under the provisions of Pub. Util. Code § 583 and/or General Order (GO) 66-C.

Pub. Util. Code § 583 provides that:

“No information furnished to the commission by a public utility, or any business which is a subsidiary or affiliate of a public utility, or a corporation which holds a controlling interest in a public utility, except those matters specifically required to be open to public inspection by this part, shall be open to public inspection or made public except on order of the commission, or by the commission or a commissioner in the course of a hearing or proceeding.”

GO 66-C identifies records that are not open to public inspection, and specifies procedures for obtaining information and records by members of the public. Section 3.5 of GO 66-C provides that the Commission or a Commissioner during the course of a hearing or proceeding may authorize the release of information not otherwise open to public inspection.

I find that the public’s need to review the independent audit reports outweighs any claims of confidentiality by PG&E or Edison.

Therefore, **IT IS RULED** that pursuant to Pub. Util. Code § 583 and § 3.5 of General Order 66-C, I authorize release of the independent audit reports prepared by Barrington-Wellesley Group, Inc. and KPMG LLP to the public.

Dated January 29, 2001, at San Francisco, California.

Loretta M. Lynch
President
Assigned Commissioner

